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USEFUL INVENTIONS.

IMPROVED HORSE-SHOE,

Invented by Mr. Edward Coleman, Vet. Surg.

THE object of this invention is to prevent diseases of the horse's foot, particularly the contraction of the hoof. This disease proceeds from the hoof being exposed to artificial and unnatural heat in the stable, or from the frog not receiving its due degree of pressure. This shoe is designed to prevent the contraction of the heels, though the frog be not in contact with the ground; it also has the advantage of being more firmly united to the hoof than any others hitherto employed. It can also be properly applied by the most ignorant and uninformed smith, as its difference from all others consists in the inner and posterior parts of both heels of the shoe being turned up, so as to touch the inner and posterior parts of both bars, by which means the heels of the hoof cannot contract, or the shoe have the smallest degree of lateral motion. The length of the turn up of the shoe should be sufficiently long to embrace the heel of the bar, and yet not to touch the bottom of the cavity between the bar and the frog. A bar shoe may also be applied with a similar projection, to press against the heels of the bars. If the hoof is already contracted, the heels may be mechanically expanded a little by a pair of farrier's tongs every time the horse is shod, and the shoe applied so as to press with more force against the bars: but under these circumstances the hoof should first be made moist by standing two or three hours in water, and the horse not used for a day or two afterwards.

New Method of making Carbonate of Lead, commonly called white Lead: by Mr. E. M. Noble.

Thin plates or small pieces of lead are to be placed in an open vessel; into this is to be poured acetous acid, or a solution of acetite of lead, so that the lead may be partly immersed in it: into this is introduced a mixture of Carbonic acid gas, and oxygen gas. The whole is frequently agitated to remove the carbonate when formed, and afford a new surface to the action of the fluids. Instead of lead in a metallic state, the inventor sometimes uses an oxyd of lead containing such a proportion of oxygen as will allow it to unite with acetous acid, &c. In either case the carbonate of lead is produced, the whiteness of which depends on the quality of the materials employed. The carbonate is to be separated from the mixture and dried, previous to being mixed with oil. Sometimes it requires to be freed from its impurities by washing.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

The following poem, never before published, was written by a young man who lived near Moyallen, in the county Down. He died sometime ago, of the small pox, at the age of twenty-one years. He received his education at a common country school, where he learned to read, write, and cast accounts. Of his early indications of genius little is remembered, but it is a fact that he wrote a great many pieces at an early age, most, if not all, of which have been lost. His employment of weaving did not allow much time for the cultivation of his talent; yet while actively employed at his work, he would suddenly stop, seize his pen, and pourtray the images of his lively imagination, on no other desk than the breast beam of his loom. In this way, and on such an occasion, the present piece was written. While at work he observed two spiders seize on a fly who had got entangled in their nets; his imagination added the rest.

BATTLE OF SPIDERS.

SOFTLY blow the summer breezes,
O'er the dew bespangled mead,
And the sun with fiery lustre,
Pierces through the thickest shade;

Softly runs the murmuring river,
Through the plains in easy rills,
And the swains their sheep attending,
Pipe melodious on the hills.

In a grove whose ample covert,
Shaded o'er a winding flood,
Close beside the limpid water,
There an ancient abbey stood.

Once it was a holy structure,
Where religious friars stay,
But it long had been deserted
And in heapy ruins lay.

Here two bands of cruel spiders,
Hung their treacherous nets on high,
And lay lurking in a corner,
To surprise the unwary fly.

O'er these lands there rul'd two chieftains,
Whose broad nets contiguous lay,
And they often were disputing,
Who should bear the greatest sway.

When behold a fly, whose buzzing
Long employed each monarch's thought,
With its purple wings extended,
Just between the nets was caught.

Hard it struggled for its freedom,
Quite impatient of delay,
When with horrid jaws expanded,
These grim furies seized their prey;

So, two lions from the forest,
Fly with most tremendous roar,
Flocks and herds in pieces rending,
Staining all the ground with gore;

Thus they seize the panting victim,
Loud it sends repeated cries,
Wearied out at last with torture,
Buzzes, struggles, faints, and dies.

Then began a fierce contention,
Who the breathless corpse should have,
Each one thought he best deserved it,
Each with equal fury rave.

Striving still to haul it backwards,
Each black warrior tries in vain,
When around in thick'ning legions,
Cluster all the long-legg'd train.

Adverse parties aid their chieftains,
Long they pull with furious rage,
But when neither tribe could gain it,
All in bloody fight engage;

So, two thundering armies meeting,
Loud with clamour shake the shore,
Dreadful wounds, and death succeeding,
Trumpets sound, and cannons roar.

Thus they rage with dreadful fury,
All in one tumultuous throng,
Foot to foot, was there opposed,
Rank drove rank with force along.

Grinning teeth, and jaws extended,
Eyes that shot a fiery glare,
Fury on each visage painted,
Dreadful rage inspires the war.

Thus they seek each other's ruin,
Thus they pant for mutual blood,
When an owl with fury flying,
Darts out of the gloomy wood.

Straight its flight it then directed
To the scene of hostile fray,
And, with beak and claws extended,
Tore at once both hosts away.

TO HOPE.

HOPE, thou soother of affliction,
Wipe with lenient hand the tear,
Strike me with the kind conviction,
That thy promised joys are near.

Thou from anguish oft relieved me,
Op'd bright prospects to my view,
Tho' thou in the end deceived me,
For the time I thought thee true.

When oppressed with care and sorrow,
Still, kind hope, thou hoverest near,
Thou an angel's form dost borrow,
Doubt's dark gloomy clouds to clear.

When chill poverty oppressing,
Binds the poor man to the oar,
He can bear the weight, confessing
That the best deserves no more.

Ready Hope his ease befriending,
With the prospect warms his breas
That his toil and trouble ending,
He in Heaven will find his rest.

When love, of peace the bosom robbing,
Scorning spurns at wealth or fame,
When the fond heart thrilling, throbbing,
Vibrates at the dear one's name.

Hope can mitigate the anguish,
Paint the lover faithful, true,
Hope can make us cease to languish,
Every joyful hour renew.

When our friends drop off around us,
Sinking one by one to rest,
Let not grief or doubt confound us,
Hope will whisper they are blest.

When affliction deeper seated,
Than the loss of worldly wealth,
When heart-felt sorrows oft repeated,
Slowly undermine the health,

Hope, firm on her anchor leaning,
Proves our sure and stedfast stay,
She all worldly woes disdaining,
Points to heaven, and leads the way.

LYDIA.